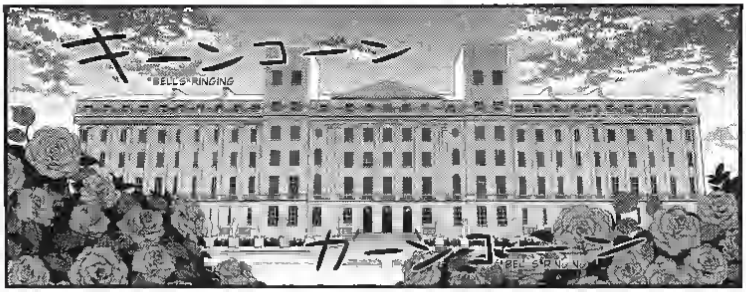
IN THIS HISTORIC GARDEN OF GIRLS FROM NOBLE FAMILIES, A REVOLUTION HAS OCCURRED.
BARANOMIYA GIRLS' ACADEMY
PSEUDO-FAMILY PROGRAM
WHERE STUDENTS PICKED AT RANDOM ARE TO START A "FAMILY"
AND RIVAL OTHER "FAMILIES" TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE STARTING FROM POVERTY

THIS IS THE STORY OF
NATSUKAWA HARUHI, WHO WAS SUDDENLY FORCED TO ENROLL AS A DOUBLE,
ALONG WITH HER PRETEND-WIFE AND CHILDREN,
ON HER DAILY STRUGGLES IN THE MAIDENS' BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL...

第6話 WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FAMILY


キーンコーン
BELLS RINGING
カーンコーン

カツ
CLICK
カツ
CLACK
カツ
カツ

ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER

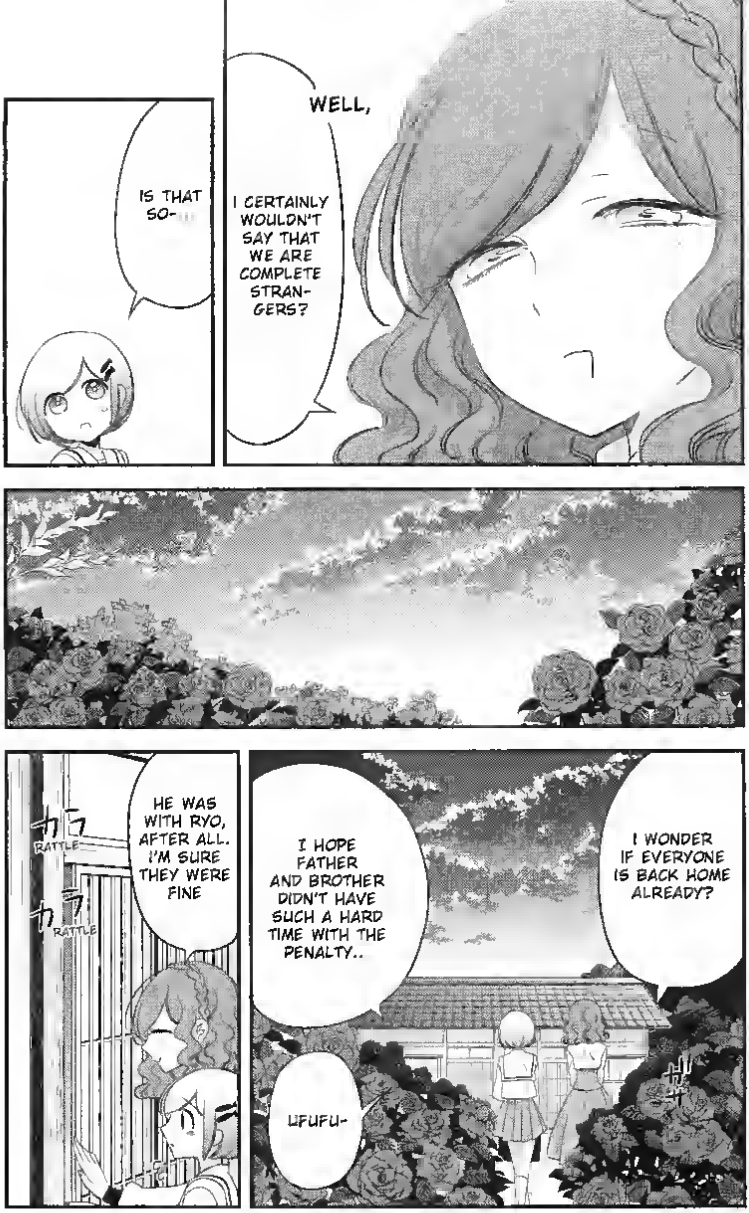
EVERYONE, HOW DO YOU DO?

STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT!
Splendid as always
She spoke to me
OH MY~
OH?
THAT IS SURELY...
MS. YUKARI TOKIWA

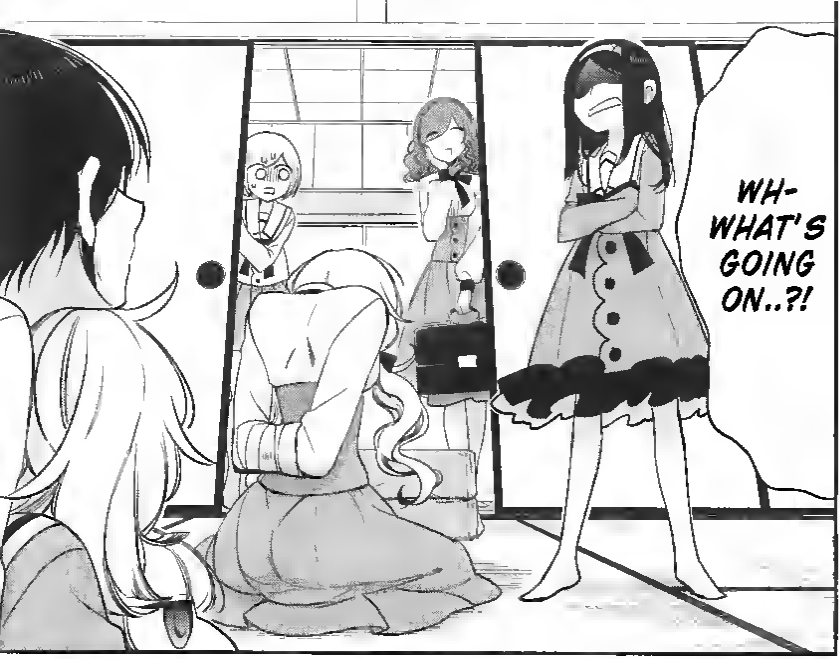
OH, MY.
I'VE FOUND A WONDERFUL NEW "TOY" TO PLAY WITH... YOU SEE...
GRIN-
PRESIDENT, YOU SEEM TO BE IN HIGH SPIRITS TODAY?
HO HO HO
CAN YOU TELL?
chatter
they certainly are a feast for the eyes♥
they make such a pair, don't they?♥
It's the president and Ms Tokiwa

MY,
ISN'T THAT GRAND?
congratulations
...
INDEED.
OH HO HO HO
OH?
.....
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME-
ANYWAYS, PARDON ME FOR BOTHERING YOU.
GOOD AFTER-NOON.
!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, AYUMI?
WHY ARE YOU ALL CURLED UP AND STUCK TO THE WALL LIKE THAT?
SOME KIND OF PLAY, IS IT?

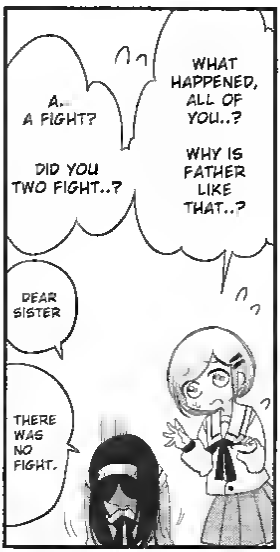
SENP-
AH, MOTHER, I HAPPENED TO SEE YOU IN THE HALLS AND I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD GO HOME TOGETHER...
BUT JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO CALL OUT TO YOU, I SAW THE PRESIDENT AND...
SOMEHOW I ENDED UP HIDING BEHIND THIS WALL.
MY, MY!
DOES THE PRESIDENT SCARE YOU?
N-NO! IT'S JUST HER AURA IS TOO GREAT AND IT'S HARD TO LOOK STRAIGHT AT HER SHOULD I SAY...
It just happens without thinking
MOTHER, ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE PRESIDENT?
HM- I WON-DER...
CLICK-
CLACK-


WELL,
I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T SAY THAT WE ARE COMPLETE STRANGERS?
IS THAT SO-
I WONDER IF EVERYONE IS BACK HOME ALREADY?
I HOPE FATHER AND BROTHER DIDN'T HAVE SUCH A HARD TIME WITH THE PENALTY..
UFUFU-
HE WAS WITH RYO, AFTER ALL. I'M SURE THEY WERE FINE
RATTLE
RATTLE

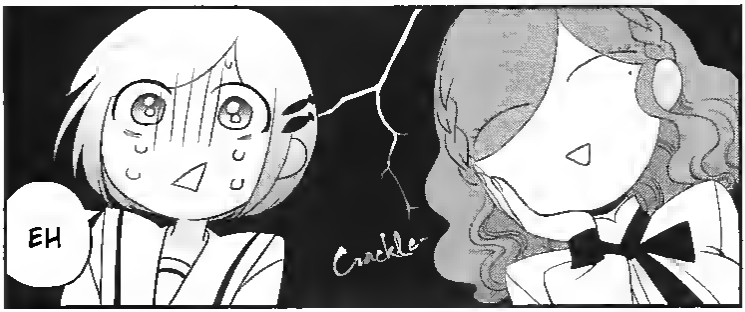
でぃん
DO OM
STARE—
SHRIVEL...

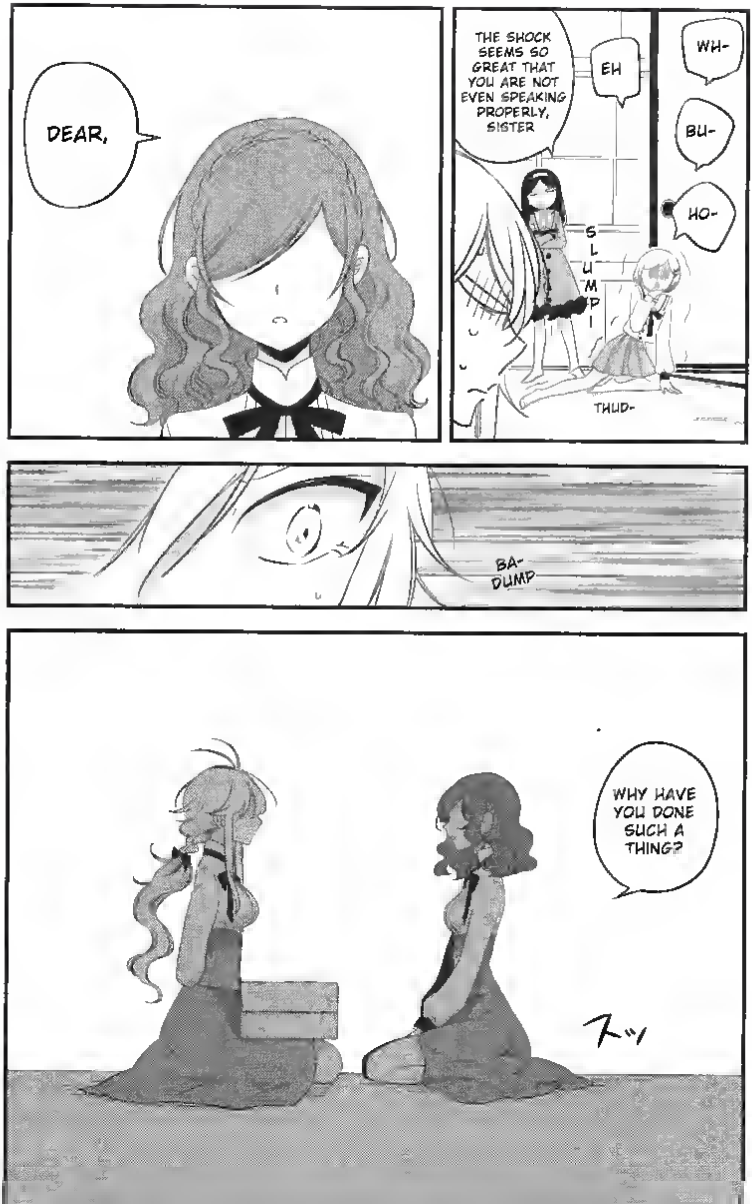

WH-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON..?!

THERE
WAS
AN
INCIDENT
!!!
カッ!!


WHAT
HAPPENED,
ALL OF
YOU..?
A..
A FIGHT?
WHY IS
FATHER
LIKE
THAT..?
DID YOU
TWO FIGHT..?
DEAR
SISTER
THERE
WAS
NO
FIGHT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS
.....
THIS PERSON JUST PICKED A FIGHT WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDEEEEEEEEEEENT!!!

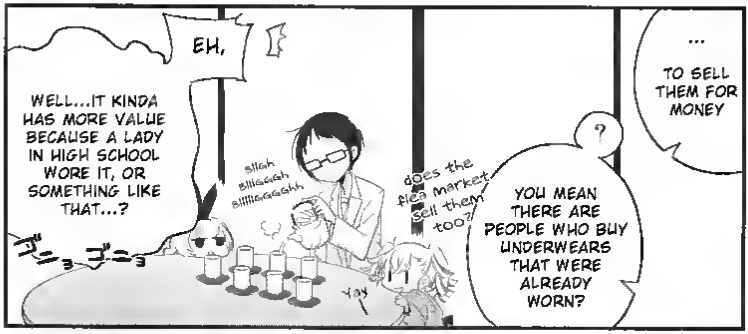

EH
Crackle~


DEAR,
THE SHOCK SEEMS SO GREAT THAT YOU ARE NOT EVEN SPEAKING PROPERLY, SISTER
EH
WH-
BU-
HO-
SLUMPI
THUD-
BA-DUMP
WHY HAVE YOU DONE SUCH A THING?

THERE WAS A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT WHO WAS GOING AROUND STEALING UNDERWEAR.

WHAT WERE THEY PLANNING TO DO WITH THE UNDER-WEARS?
?
EH?
WAIT A MINUTE,

TODAY'S PENALTY WAS TO CATCH THE THIEF
BUT AFTER WE HEARD OF THEIR SITUATION

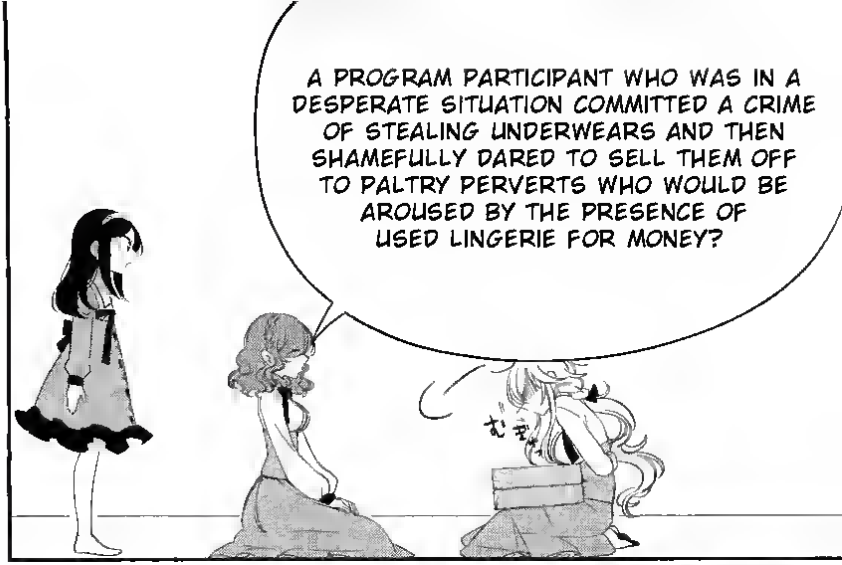

EH,
WELL...IT KINDA HAS MORE VALUE BECAUSE A LADY IN HIGH SCHOOL WORE IT, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...?
ahhh
ahhhhh
ahhhhhhhhh
does the flea market sell them too?
?
YOU MEAN THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO BUY UNDERWEARS THAT WERE ALREADY WORN?
...
TO SELL THEM FOR MONEY

SO, IN OTHER WORDS,

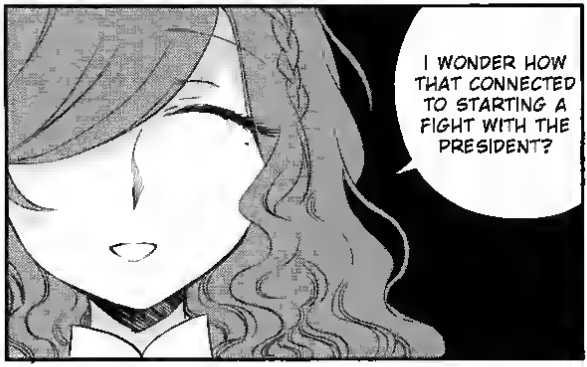
THIS IS BAD SHE'S BLINDING IN A DIFFERENT WAY FROM THE PRESIDENT
I CAN'T LOOK AT HER STRAIGHT
?

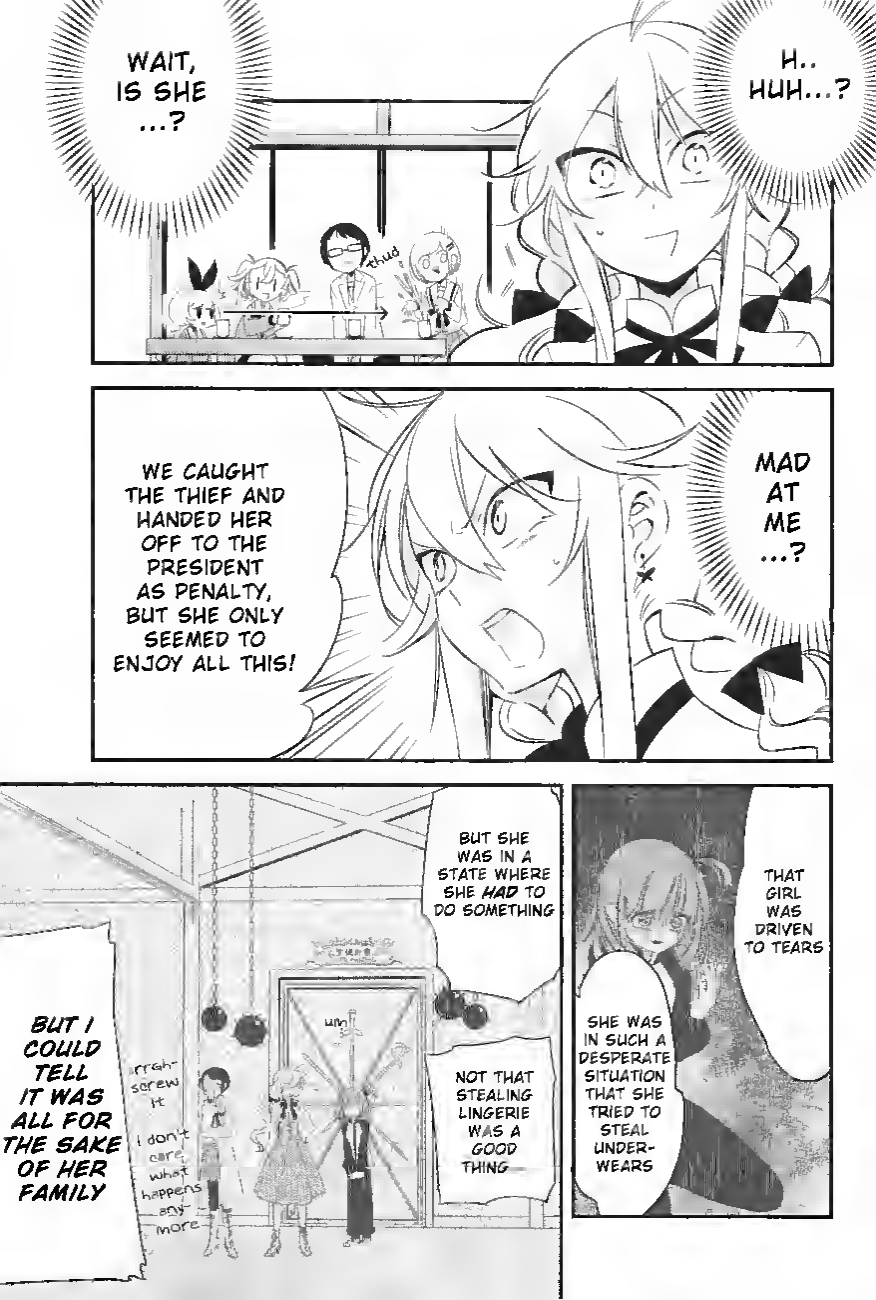
?
YOU MEAN LIKE A BRAND VALUE?
AMONG FEMALE COMMONERS?

EH
WELL... IT'S NOT WOMEN WHO BUY THEM

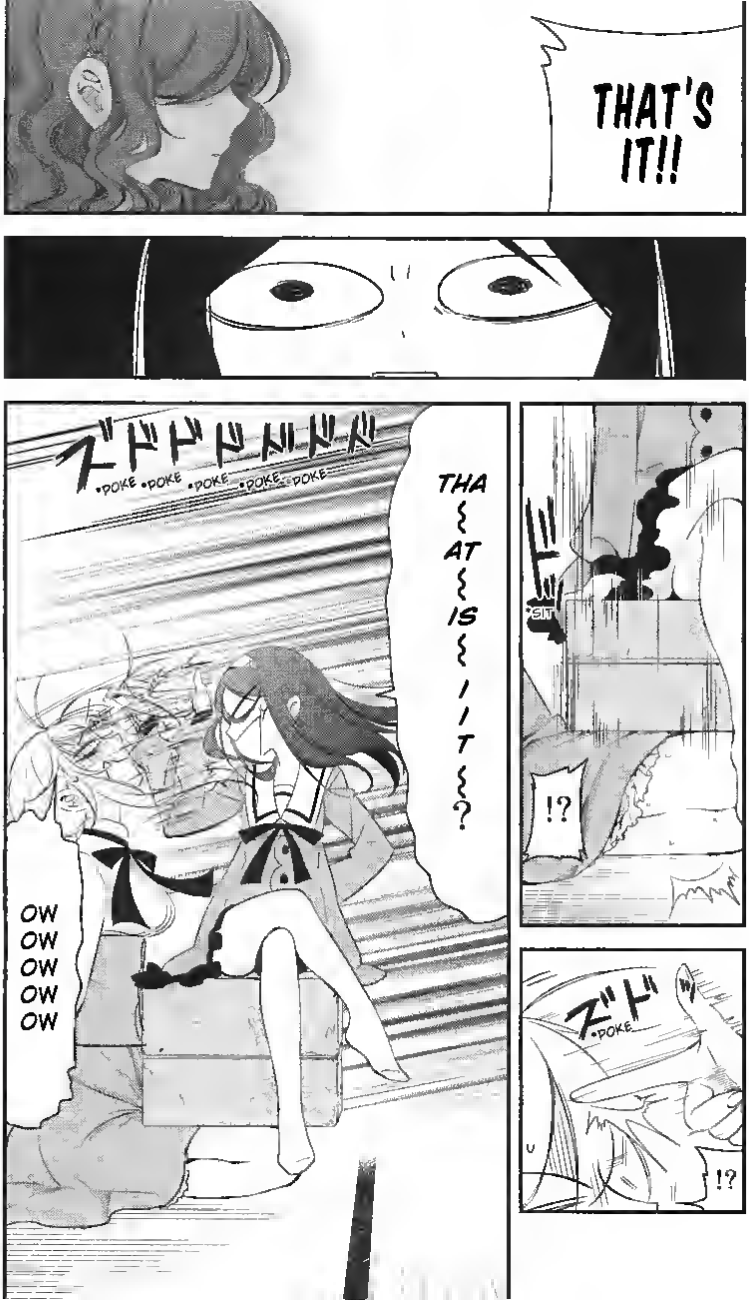

A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT WHO WAS IN A DESPERATE SITUATION COMMITTED A CRIME OF STEALING UNDERWEARS AND THEN SHAMEFULLY DARED TO SELL THEM OFF TO PALTRY PERVERTS WHO WOULD BE AROUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF USED LINGERIE FOR MONEY?
むぎゅ

AND..?
Y.. YES ...
THAT WAS WAY TOO DIRECT
!!!


I WONDER HOW THAT CONNECTED TO STARTING A FIGHT WITH THE PRESIDENT?


WAIT, IS SHE ...?
H.. HUH...?
thud
WE CAUGHT THE THIEF AND HANDED HER OFF TO THE PRESIDENT AS PENALTY, BUT SHE ONLY SEEMED TO ENJOY ALL THIS!
MAD AT ME ...?
BUT I COULD TELL IT WAS ALL FOR THE SAKE OF HER FAMILY
argh- screw it
I don't care, what happens anymore
um
BUT SHE WAS IN A STATE WHERE SHE HAD TO DO SOMETHING
NOT THAT STEALING LINGERIE WAS A GOOD THING
THAT GIRL WAS DRIVEN TO TEARS
SHE WAS IN SUCH A DESPERATE SITUATION THAT SHE TRIED TO STEAL UNDER-WEARS

BUT THE PRESIDENT ONLY SEES THIS AS A WAY TO KILL TIME AND BOREDOM
SHE'S MIS-USING THIS PRO-GRAM
Thank you for covering up for me...
WASN'T THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS TO ENHANCE THE TEAMWORK AND ASPIRATIONS OF EVERYONE?!
I JUST CAN'T STAND GUYS LIKE THAT WHO ABUSE THEIR POWER FOR FUN!!
THAT'S WHY I STARTED A FIGHT!


THAT'S IT!!
ズドドドドドド
•POKE •POKE •POKE •POKE •POKE
THAAAT IS IIIT?
OW OW OW OW OW
ドド
SIT
!?
ズド
•POKE
!?

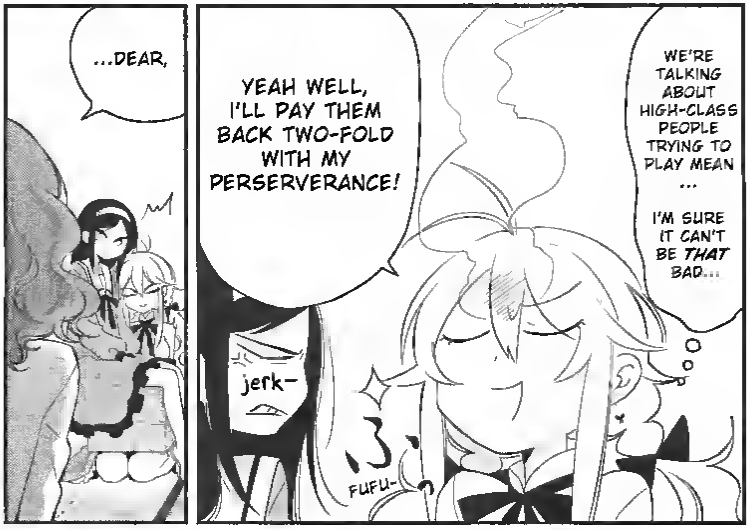
I'M ASKING SO WHAT IF YOU STARTED A FIGHT!!
DID YOU THINK IT WOULD JUST SOMEHOW SOLVE EVERYTHING?!

YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON TO EVER START A FIGHT HEAD-ON WITH THE PRESIDENT
I'M SURE SHE'LL WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS.

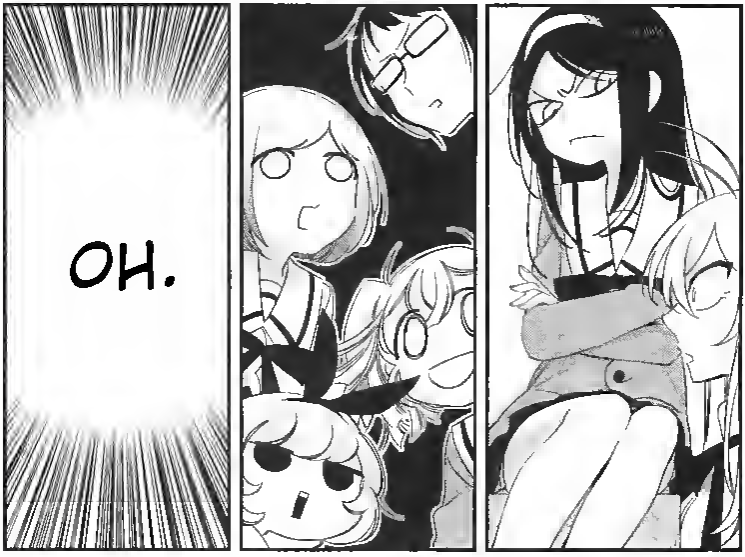
JUDGING BY HOW SHE'S THE MAIN SEAT OF POWER AT SCHOOL, AND NOT TO MENTION THE TERRIBLE PERSONALITY SHE'S FAMOUS FOR,
MAN, YOU'RE IN FOR IT, DAD
Well, it doesn't concern us, anyway

THAT

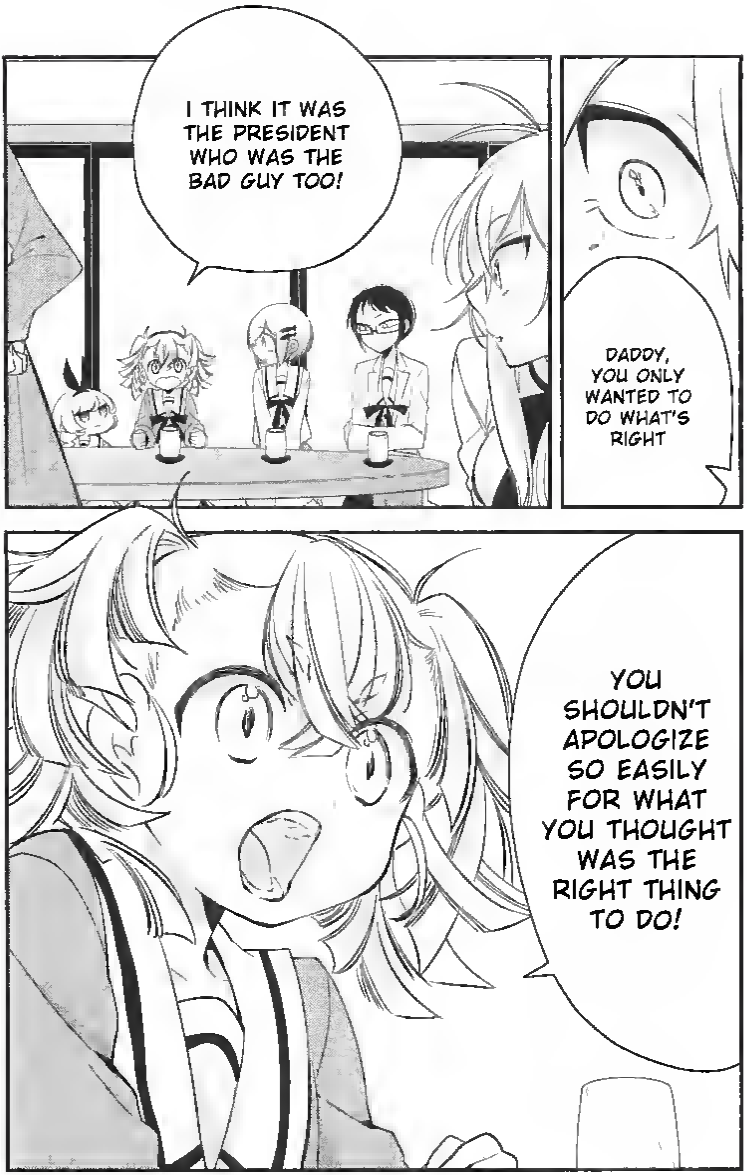
THAT MUST MEAN
!!
THUMB-TACKS IN MY SHOES!
FLOWER ON MY DESK!
LET'S PUT THEM ON THE INTERNET!
ONE MORE TO GO!
STOP IIIIIT-
I'VE READ ABOUT THIS IN A MANGA BEFORE!!


...DEAR,
YEAH WELL, I'LL PAY THEM BACK TWO-FOLD WITH MY PERSERVERANCE!
jerk-
FUFU-
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HIGH-CLASS PEOPLE TRYING TO PLAY MEAN ...
I'M SURE IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD...

FOR SOME REASON, YOU SEEM TO THINK OF THIS AS A PERSONAL PROBLEM,
BUT SINCE WE ARE ALL A PART OF THE PROGRAM, PERHAPS THE WHOLE FAMILY IS TO BECOME THE TARGET?


OH.

AAARRRRRRGGHHH THAT'S RIGHT!!! I JUST WENT AND THOUGHT IT'S MY OWN FIGHT OUT OF HABIT THAT'S WHY I WAS SO CONFIDENT BUT THERE'S NO WAY THE PRESIDENT WILL THINK OF IT THAT WAY, AT THIS RATE THIS MAKES ME NO DIFFERENT FROM MY STUPID OLD MAN WHO JUST DECIDED TO DUMP ALL HIS PROBLEMS ON MY SHOULDERS
Sorry
IS THIS WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A FAMILY...
WAIT-
DON'T JUST REST YOUR HEAD ON MY LAP LIKE THAT!!
Just realised
I'm sorry all of you
This is all my fault
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?


I THINK IT WAS THE PRESIDENT WHO WAS THE BAD GUY TOO!
DADDY, YOU ONLY WANTED TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT
YOU SHOULDN'T APOLOGIZE SO EASILY FOR WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO!

WHAT I THOUGHT WAS THE RIGHT THING
THAT'S RIGHT ...
LET ME REPHRASE WHAT I JUST SAID.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT MY ACTIONS WERE MY SOLE REPONSIBILTY
I ONLY JUST REALISED NOW THAT I'VE PULLED YOU GUYS ALL INTO THIS
I WAS TOTALLY UNAWARE OF MY POSITION AS A FATHER, AND FOR THAT, I'M SORRY.

KNOWING THERE ARE PEOPLE CRYING OVER THIS, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO LEAVE IT AT THAT.
BUT I STILL BELIEVE THAT THE PRESIDENT'S WAY OF HANDLING THINGS IS NOT RIGHT
SO EVERYONE CAN TRULY BE HAPPY AS A FAMILY
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO PULL HER DOWN FROM HER POSITION

I KNOW IT'LL BE HARD ON YOU ALL, BUT I WANT YOU TO TRUST ME.
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, WHILE BEING TIED UP AND KNEELING WITH A WEIGHT ON YOUR LAP, IT'S NOT VERY IMPRESSING.
SERI-OUSLY ...
WHAT A TROUBLE-SOME MAN, YOU ARE.
TO STAND UP FOR THE SAKE OF SOMEONE IN ANOTHER FAMILY...

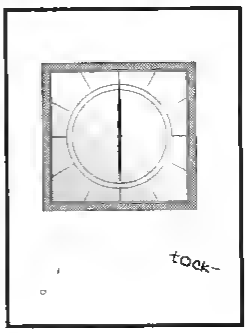
You are too kind, dear...
IT SEEMS YOUR FATHER HAS HIS MIND ALL SET,
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THAT?
AT THIS POINT, THERE'S REALLY NO HELPING IT...
I'LL COOPERATE
WE'RE A FAMILY AFTER ALL
MUMBLE

ISN'T IT EXCITING HOW WE'RE GOING AGINST THE EVIL PRESIDENT?
MY HAIR IS GETTING MESSY! PLEASE STOP THIS AT ONCE!!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN-!
COME ON, BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF!
!
I WONDER IF THIS IS SAYING THAT SHE'S MOTIVATED
C'MERE YOU
HAHA

FATHER SURE IS AMAZING
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT THAT DEEP ABOUT THIS PROGRAM AT ALL...
AND I'VE STILL YET TO GETTING USED TO THE "ELDEST DAUGHTER" POSITION...
I don't really get it

*BELL RINGING
THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL
*JOLT

I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO AS THE "ELDEST DAUGHTER"?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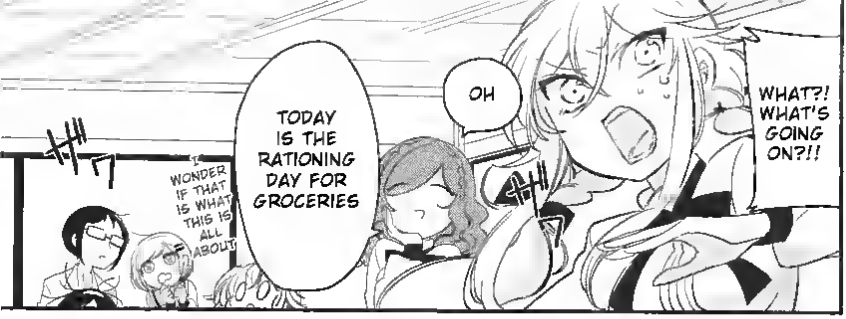
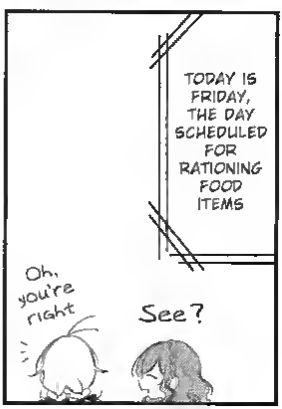

WHAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!!
OH
TODAY IS THE RATIONING DAY FOR GROCERIES
I WONDER IF THAT IS WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT

UNLIKE REGULAR RATIONING, THE BOARD CHAIRMAN WOULD BE JOINING YOU AT THE DINNER TABLE.


TODAY IS FRIDAY, THE DAY SCHEDULED FOR RATIONING FOOD ITEMS
Oh, you're right
See?

BUT,
Hm

AND SO,
LONG AGO, WHEN FAMILY BONDS WERE STILL STRONG, COOKING WAS THE JOB OF WOMEN.
MOTHERS AND ELDEST DAUGHTERS OF EACH FAMILY
WITH THE RATIONED GROCERIES, PLEASE PREPARE A MEAL BY MONDAY AND PRESENT THEM TO THE HIGHER-UPS.

Translator's notes:

Placing a flower on someone's desk is a way to offer condolences to a student who passed away.

Along with putting thumbtacks in someone's indoor shoes, they are common ways of bullying in Japan.

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「疑似家族計画」のあり方に疑問を持ち、
生徒会長に宣戦布告をした夏川春日。
しかし、生徒会長と敵対することの意味を、この時まだ分かっていなかった。
家族と共にいるということ、その難しさに触れた春日は、
彼女達との仲を深めつつ新たな課題「突撃☆晩ごはん」に挑むことに…。

Cover Design : Takako Abukawa

ホパパゴト2
oPAPagoto.
白梅ナズナ